

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION SY-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0885

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 4296  
FROM RSO TO SY AND ARA

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC, PINSN PINT, SHUM, AR  
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

1. THIS REPORT GIVES A SUMMARY OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND TERRORIST ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE COME TO OUR ATTENTION DURING THE PERIOD FROM MAY 27 TO JUNE 2, 1977.

2. MAY 28: AT 2030 HRS, POLICE GUARD AT MONTEVIDEO 496, FEDERAL CAPITAL WAS INVOLVED IN A SHOOTING WITH TWO MEN IN A VEHICLE BELIEVED TO BE TERRORISTS. THERE WERE NO INJURIES AND THE TWO PERSONS ESCAPED.

AT 2230 HRS, THE POLICE BROADCASTED A GENERAL ALERT TO ALL PRECINCTS AND PATROLS INFORMING THEM AS MAY 29 WAS THE CELEBRATION OF THE CREATION OF THE ARGENTINE ARMY THEY ANTICIPATED POSSIBLE TERRORIST ACTS AGAINST POLICE AND MILITARY OBJECTS.

LA PRENSA REPORTED THAT IN HAEDO, BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE, A CONFRONTATION TOOK PLACE BETWEEN TERRORISTS AND SECURITY FORCES. THE TERRORISTS WERE LOCATED IN A HOUSE AT EL CEIBO STREET. ARMY AND PROVINCIAL POLICE TOOK PART IN THE CONFRONTATION WHICH LASTED 2-2 1/2 HOURS. VARIOUS REPORTS STATED THAT FROM 16-20 TERRORISTS WERE KILLED. SECURITY FORCES CONFISCATED BIOGRAPHICAL DATA, DOCUMENTS AND

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BERS OF THE MONTONERO ORGANIZATION. DURING THG CONFRONTATION TWO SECURITY OFFICIALS WERE ALSO INJURED. ON JUNE 2, LOCAL PRIS REPORTED THAT FIVE TERRORISTS (3 MEN AND 2 WOMEN) WERE KILLED IN A CONFRONTATION IN THE TOWN OF LUIS GUILLON IN THE PROV. OF BS.AS. THE CLASH TOOK PLACE ON PELLEGRINI ST. WHEN SECURITY FORCES ENGAGED IN A CONTROL OPERATION WERE FIRED ON BY THE TERRORISTS WHEN THEY WERE STOPPED AT A CHECKPOINT. SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS, BOMBS AND MONTONERO LITERATURE WERE REPORTEDLY FOUND IN THE VEHICLE. IN ANOTHER INCIDENT ON THE SAME DAY, A POLICE CAR WAS ATTACKED FROM A PASSING VEHICLE NEAR PEREYRA IRAOLA PARK IN BS. AS. PROV. THERE WERE NO INJURIES AND THE ASSAILANTS ESCAPED.

3. RESO COMMENT: DURING INTERVIEW WITH SECURITY SOURCES RSO WAS INFORMED THAT ERP COMBATIVE FORCE NOW IS SLIGHTLY OVER 100 ON A COUNTRY-WIDE BASIS AND THAT A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF THE POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE DEPARTED THE COUNTRY. SOURCES ALSO STATED THERE IS A SERIOUS SPLIT IN THE MONTONERO MOVEMENT, A MINORITY FACTION FAVORS MOVING OUT OF A COMBATIVE ROLE INTO A MORE POLITICAL ROLE AND BREAKING WITH THE MARXIST ELEMENTS WITHIN THE PARTY. THE OTHER FACTION FEELS THAT MILITARY ACTION MUST BE CONTINUED IN ORDER TO KEEP THE PARTY AS A POLITICAL FORCE.

4. SOURCES STATED THAT A REVIEW OF THE MONTONERO ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS PROVIDES TESTIMONY TO THEIR WEAKNESS. ON MAY 7, 1977 THEY MADE AN UNSUCCESSFUL ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON FOREIGN MINISTER GUZZETTI. THIS WAS THE HIGH POINT OF THEIR RECENT OPERATIONS.

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ON APR. 7 THEY FIRED INDISCRIMINATELY AT A POLICE PATROL. ON APR. 26 THEY KILLED A MEMBER OF THE PROVINCIAL POLICE AND THEY HAVE WAGED FOUR ATTACKS ON RAILROAD POLICE, TWO OF WHICH HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL. COMPARED TO THE LOSSES AND SETBACKS THEY HAVE SUFFERED, THESE ARE MARGINAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS GENERALLY DIRECTED AT VERY SOFT TARGETS.

5. SOURCES STATED THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION BUT THAT THE GOVT IS WINNING THE MILITARY COMBAT WITH THE TERRORIST BUT THE TERRORISTS STILL HAVE STRONG BASED

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POLITICAL/MEDIA SUPPORT ABROAD AND THE BATTLE WAS NOT  
OVER YET.  
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